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CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIALCOUNTRY East Germany REPORT TOPIC VPL in Pirna

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EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

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DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 18 October 1954

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REFERENCES PAGES 1 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

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REMARKS This is UNEVALUATED

1. Between March and about 15 June 1954, four training companies of the VdA were stationed at Sonnenstein Castle near Pirna. The companies were transferred to Kamenz between 1 and 15 June. By 15 June, the castle was vacated by all VdA units and taken over by SSD troops. According to rumors among the transferred training companies, a development institute for jet engines was to be established in Sonnenstein Castle.
2. After the transfer to Kamenz, the units from Pirna were organized into three companies which formed the 3rd Train Bn in Kamenz I. No information was available whether a 1st and 2nd Train Bn existed within the VdA. The 3rd Train Bn, which was quartered in Section I of the Panzer Kaserne in Kamenz, continued basic training up to 31 July. The trained recruits were scheduled to become aircraft mechanics, drivers, interpreters and officer candidates. They were not urged to go in for training as flight personnel. After the transfer of the trained recruits, the training companies were to be filled up with new personnel from Augustusbad which was the induction station. The 1st Co of the 3rd Train Bn in Kamenz had the following postal address: Post office box No 41 B/1. The following officers were known:

Battalion commander
 political officer
 chief of staff
 commanding officer of 1st Co
 commanding officer of 2nd Co

Senior Lieutenant Herwig (fnu)
 Senior Lieutenant Wagner (fnu)
 Senior Lieutenant Gruen (fnu)
 Sub-Lieutenant Schmidt (fnu)
 Lieutenant Freund (fnu)

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Comment. According to a previous report, training companies of the VdA were transferred from Augustusbad to Pirna in early 1954.

The information that these training companies were transferred to Kamenz and assigned to the VdA School No 500 appears to be correct since the Sonnenstein Castle near Pirna is used as collecting point for the technicians returning from the USSR. The establishment in Pirna Sonnenstein of an aircraft construction bureau of the GDR is known. It was discontinued in mid-1953 and resumed in late 1954. According to available information, the bureau is to be transferred at a later date to Dessau.

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